

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

PS - PR and RD Department - Allegations of irregularities in execution of road works in Savarakota Mandal, Srikakulam District - Charges framed against Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer, PRI Sub-Division, Narasannapeta, Srikakulam District - Proved in the inquiry conducted by the C.O.I - Representation - Imposition of penalty of withholding of two (2) annual grade increments without cumulative effect under Rule 9 (iv) of A.P.C.S (CC&A) Rules, 1991 - Orders - Issued.

**PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.I) DEPARTMENT
G.O.Rt.No. 645**

Dated:09 .12.2021

Read the following:

1. From the DG, GA (V&E) Department, Vigilance Report No. 97 (C.No. 1186/V&E/E/2016), dated: 29.09.2017.
2. G.O.Rt.No.1390, PR&RD (Vig.I) Department, Dt: 21.12.2018.
3. G.O.Rt.No.1392, PR&RD (Vig.I) Department, Dt: 21.12.2018.
4. From ENC, PR, AP, Vijayawada, Letter No. Vig. I (1).4244/18, dated: 30.01.2019.
5. G.O.Rt.No.479, PR&RD (Vig.I) Department, Dt: 05.08.2019.
6. G.O.Rt.No.480, PR&RD (Vig. I) Department, Dt:- 05.08.2019.
7. From Sri J. Sathyanarayana, IPS (Retd.), Commissioner of Inquiries, G.A.(COI) Department and Inquiring Authority, D.O. Letter NO. 134/COI-IS/2019, dt: 12.08.2020.
8. Govt. Memo No. 11786/Vig. I/2017, PR&RD (Vigt. I) Dept., Dt: 02.12.2020.
9. From Sri R.Ramam,Dy.EE, PRISD, Narasannapeta, representation dt: 24.12.2020.
10. From the ENC,PR, Leter NN. Vig. I(1)/4244/2018, dated: 19.07.2021.

ORDER

Based on the recommendations of the Director General, Vigilance & Enforcement Department made in the reference 1st read above, on the allegations of irregularities in execution of road works under MGNREGS in Savarakota Mandal, Srikakulam District, Government in the reference 2nd read above, have initiated common disciplinary proceedings under Rule 24 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 duly framing following article of charge under Rule 20 of above said rules vide reference 3rd read above against Sri R.Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer, PRISD, Narasannapeta (M), Srikakulam District with a direction to submit his written statement of defence.

Charge:

That Sri R.Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer, PRISD, Narasannapeta (M), Srikakulam District has misused his official position and committed irregularities and misappropriation of MGNREGS funds in execution of road works in Saravakota (M) in as much as he has (i) check measured the measurements of earth work and recommended for payment without execution, (ii) recommended for the payment of stone dust without using the same in GSB layer, (iii) check measured and recommended for payment of excess quantity materials for spreading of GSB layer than the collected quantity, and (iv) allowed the Mandal Engineering officer, Narasannapeta to execute the work located at Saravakota i.e. in others jurisdiction, without any orders from higher authority and caused loss to the Government to a tune of Rs.10,47,775/-.

(P.T.O.,)

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2. In the reference 4th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief, PR among others, has furnished the written statement of defence dt:21.01.2019 of the Charged Officer. After examination of the matter, Government have decided to conduct regular inquiry into the matter. Accordingly, in the reference 5th read above, Government have entrusted the case to Commissioner of Inquiries and appointed Sri J. Sathyanarayana, IPS (Retd.), C.O.I, G.A (COI) Department as the Inquiring Authority to inquire into the charge framed against charged officer Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer (PR) and also other eight (8) co-charged officers involved in the case.

3. In the reference 7th read above, the Inquiring Authority has furnished inquiry report dt: 12.08.2020 along with his findings on each charged officer. In the findings the Inquiring Authority, among others, has held that the charges on the above counts framed against the Charged Officer Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer (PR), are held proved.

4. In the reference 8th read above, Government, among others, have communicated the copy of the Inquiry report to the charged officer for submitting his representation, if any on the findings of the Inquiry Authority.

5. In the reference 9th read above, the charged officer Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer (PR) has submitted representation duly stating that he deny the findings of E.O on each of the count of the charge. With regard to findings of I.A on count (i) is proved viz.; 'to the extent that he check measured the earth work and recommended for payment without execution'; the C.O has stated that the I.A has considered that the earth work was executed. With regard the findings of I.A on count (ii) of charge is proved viz., 'recommended for payment of stone dust without using the same in GSB layer'; the C.O has stated that the I.A has not considered his plea about recording the measurements of blended and finished stacks of material ready for use as GSB layer. With regard to findings of I.A on count (iii) of charge is proved viz, check measured and recommended for payment of excess quantity material for spreading of GSB layer than collected quantity'; the CO has stated that the material was recorded as per actual measurements on the field and the difference is only Rs.508/- ie,. meagre. With regard to findings of I.A on count (iv) of charge proved viz, allowed MEO, Narasannapeta to execute the work located at Saravakota ie,. others jurisdiction'; the C.O has stated that he being the Sub-Divisional Officer is competent to redistribute the works within his jurisdiction according to administrative convenience and acted in the interest of administration. The Charged Officer has requested to reconsider the findings of I.A and exonerate him from the charge.

6. In the reference 10th read above, the ENC,PR has furnished report of the Superintending Engineer, PR, Srikakulam regarding proposed recovery of Rs.10,47,775/- in eight works in Gummanapadu Gram Panchayat along with pass orders made in the connected M. Books to the Government for taking necessary action in the matter.

7. Government have examined the representation of the charged ofcer Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer, PR and observe that the contentions of the charged officer made in his present representation

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dt: 24.12.2020 is similar to that of his earlier written statement of defence dt: 21.01.2019 submitted by him, which was considered and rejected earlier. Further, the very objective of the Panchayat Raj Engineering Department is that the Engineering works that are being executed in Gram Panchayats i.e., either through Contractors or through any other agencies viz., Sarpanches etc., shall be executed strictly in accordance with norms, work estimates and technical specifications without any deviation. It is the primary task of the PR. Engg. Personnel to ensure the maintenance of quality in execution of works. When the works are executed under the administrative control of the PR Engg. Personnel, then they are only responsible for inferior quality of execution and the lapses regarding inferior quality of works executed could not be simply thrown on executive agencies viz., Contractors, Sarpanches etc., The proposed recovery by the V&E was made good subsequently and this shows that there was substandard execution carried out. As such, the charged officer is responsible for substandard execution. Hence, his representation to drop further action is devoid of merits since he is not absolved from the charge.

8. Accordingly, Government after careful examination of the matter have decided and hereby order to impose the penalty of stoppage of two (2) annual grade increments without cumulative effect under Rule 9 (iv) of A.P.C.S (CC&A) Rules, 1991 against Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer, PRI Sub-Division, Narasannapeta, Srikakulam District in the matter.

9. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, A.P, Vijayawada is requested to take necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri R. Ramam, Deputy Executive Engineer,
PRI Sub - Division, Narasannapeta, Srikakulam District

Through The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, A.P, Vijayawada

The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, A.P, Vijayawada (with a request to the order on individual and furnish served copy to Government immediately).

Copy to:

The Secretary to VC, A.P. Vigilance Commission, Velagapudi.

OSD to Hon'ble Minister for PR&RD.,

PS to Pri. Secy. PR&RD. Department

The PR&RD (Estt.I) Department.

Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED::BY::ORDER//


SECTION OFFICER

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